

The Bloomfield Record.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

Bills Before Congress—Southern Debt & Northern Creditors—The Navy Yard—Diseases—Guns—Woman Suffrage—Soldiers' Bounties.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 16th, 1872.

The present session of Congress closes in about two weeks. An unusual amount of regular work was accomplished before the holiday recess, but since the reassembling, Jan. 5th, only three important public acts, the Civil Rights, the Finance bill, and the "Little Tariff Act" have passed either house. Of the appropriation bills, two have finally passed, one is hanging in conference, and nine remain to be acted on. These latter bills must necessarily be attended to, or an extra session of Congress will be called. One of them, that of the army, may fail if an attempt is made to vote an appropriation for two years, as has been proposed in the Republican caucus, but then the amendment to the rules which prevent " filibustering" makes failure less probable. In the Senate, where the previous question is not recognized, the measure may be "talked to death." In the way of special legislation, a large number of bills fail. First on the list is the Civil Rights measure. Each House has passed a separate bill, and the variance between them may lead to the defeat of both. The Louisiana question is also in great doubt. The special House Committee returned from New Orleans on Saturday, but want of time negatives whatever conclusions they have arrived at. The Arkansas question is about settled by an adverse report made by the special Committee to the House, last week. Among the numerous projects brought forward is the Texan Pacific and Northern Pacific bills, Transportation, the cotton tax refund, the Patent Sewing Machine, and all of the additional bounty bills, which will fail for different reasons. Two new states are applying for admission—New Mexico and Colorado, and probably will succeed. Both bills have passed the House, and now lie on the Senate Calendar. A new Revenue bill, now in course of preparation, is one of the few bills that will pass. The Government calls for nearly forty millions of dollars of additional revenue, which, of course, will defeat all bills calling for large sums of money, together with the bills pending for the repeal of the tax on matches, checks &c.

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